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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION

OMB No. 0651-0011

Atty. Docket No.	0002-02	Appln. No.	10/075,615
Applicant	Joseph C. CAUTHEN		
Filing Date	2/15/02	Group:	3738

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial*	Document Number	Issue Date	Name	Class	Sub Class	Filing Date If Appropriate
UC	3,867,728	2/25/75	Stubstad et al.			
↓	4,013,078	3/22/77	Feild			
	4,059,115	11/22/77	Jumashev et al.			
	4,545,374	10/8/85	Jacobson			
	4,772,287	9/20/88	Ray et al.			
	4,904,260	2/27/90	Ray et al.			
↓	4,932,969	6/12/90	Frev et al.			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	Document Number	Publication Date	Country	Class	Sub Class	Translation Yes or No
UC	2 054 383 A	2/18/81	United Kingdom			
↓	WO 91/16867	11/14/91	PCT			
	WO 95/22285	8/24/95	PCT			
	WO 95/31948	11/30/95	PCT			
↓	WO 96/27339	9/12/96	PCT			

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

UC	Ahlgren, B.D., MD., et al., "Anular Incision Technique on the Strength and Multidirectional Flexibility of the Healing Intervertebral Disc," <i>Spine</i> 19(8):948-954 (1994).		
↓	Ahlgren, B.D., MD., et al., "Effect of Anular Repair on the Healing Strength of the Intervertebral Disc," <i>Spine</i> 25(17):2165-2170 (2000).		
↓	Cauthen, Joseph C., MD., "Microsurgical Annular Reconstruction (Annuloplasty) Following Lumbar Microdiscectomy: Preliminary Report of a New Technique," Abstract for Poster Presentation, AANS/CNS Section On Disorders Of The Spine And Peripheral Nerves Annual Meeting (1999).		
Examiner	<i>U.S. Department of Commerce</i>	Date Considered	8/20/03
*Examiner:	Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.		

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION

Atty. Docket No.	0844240002-02	Appln. No.	10/075,615
Applicant	Joseph C. CAUTHEN		
Filing Date	2/15/02	Group:	3738

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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial*	Document Number	Issue Date	Name	Class	Sub Class	Filing Date If Appropriate
UC	5,015,255	5/14/91	Kuslich			
↓	5,108,438	4/28/92	Stone			
↓	5,195,541	3/23/93	Obenchain			
↓	5,258,043	11/2/93	Stone			
↓	5,313,962	5/24/94	Obenchain			
↓	5,439,464	8/8/95	Shapiro			
↓	5,534,028	7/9/96	Bao et al.			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial*	Document Number	Publication Date	Country	Class	Sub Class	Translation Yes or No
UC	WO 97/26847	7/31/97	PCT			
↓	WO 98/01091	1/15/98	PCT			
↓	WO 98/05274	2/12/98	PCT			
↓	WO 98/22050	5/28/98	PCT			
↓	WO 99/00074	1/7/99	PCT			

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

UC	Lehmann, Thomas R., M.D., et al., "Refinements in Technique For Open Lumbar Discectomy," International Society for the Study of the Lumbar Spine (1997).
↓	Ordway, N.R., et al., "Failure Properties of a Hydrogel Nucleus in the Intervertebral Disc," North American Spine Society, pp.168-169 (1997).
↓	Osti, O.L., et al., "Annular Tears and Disc Degeneration in the Lumbar Spine," The Journal of Bone and Joint Surgery 74-B(5):678-82 (1992).

Examiner	<i>Umi Chatterjee</i>	Date Considered	8/20/03
*Examiner:	Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.		
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION

OMB No. 0651-0011

Atty. Docket No.	08442-0002-02	Appln. No.	10/075,615
Applicant	Joseph C. CAUTHEN		
Filing Date	2/15/02	Group:	3738

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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial*	Document Number	Issue Date	Name	Class	Sub Class	Filing Date If Appropriate
UC	5,549,679	8/27/96	Kuslich			
	5,556,429	9/17/96	Felt			
	5,562,736	10/8/96	Ray et al.			
	5,634,944	6/3/97	Magram			
	5,569,242	10/29/96	Lax et al.			
	5,571,189	11/5/96	Kuslich			
✓	5,599,279	2/4/97	Slotman et al.			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	Document Number	Publication Date	Country	Class	Sub Class	Translation Yes or No
UC	WO 99/02108	1/21/99	PCT			
	WO 99/04720	2/4/99	PCT			
	WO 99/61084	12/2/99	PCT			
	WO 00/20021	4/13/00	PCT			
✓	WO 00/25706	5/11/00	PCT			

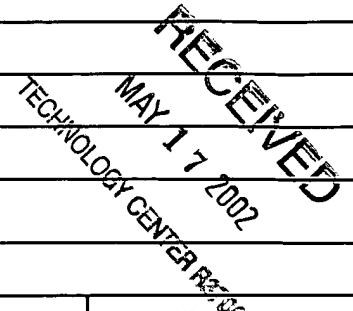
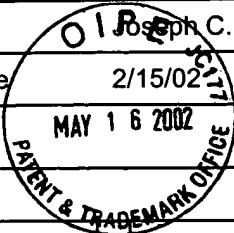
OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

UC	Panjabi, Manohar, PhD., et al., "Intrinsic Disc Pressure as a Measure of Integrity of the Lumbar Spine," <i>Spine</i> 13(8):913-17 (1988).
	Ray, Charles D., "Prosthetic Disc Nucleus Implants: Update," <i>North American Spine Society 13th Annual Meeting</i> p. 252.
✓	Yasargil, M.G., "Microsurgical Operation of Herniated Lumbar Disc," <i>Lumbar Disc Adult Hydrocephalus</i> p.81 (1977).

Examiner	<i>Wm. Christopher</i>	Date Considered	8/20/03
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Atty. Docket No. 08442.0002-02	Appln. No. 10/075,615
Applicant Joseph C. CAUTHEN	
Filing Date 2/15/02	Group: 3738



U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initial*	Document Number	Issue Date	Name	Class	Sub Class	Filing Date If Appropriate
UC	5,702,454	12/30/97	Baumgartner			
↓	5,649,945	7/22/97	Ray et al.			
	5,755,797	5/26/98	Baumgartner			
	5,785,705	7/28/98	Baker			
	5,788,625	8/4/98	Plouhar et al.			
	5,800,549	9/1/98	Bao et al.			
↓	5,824,093	10/20/98	Ray et al.			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
	Document Number	Publication Date	Country	Class	Sub Class	Translation Yes or No
UC	WO 00/42953	7/27/00	PCT			
↓	WO 00/49978	8/31/00	PCT			
	WO 00/61037	10/19/00	PCT			
	WO 00/62832	10/26/00	PCT			
↓	WO 00/76409	12/21/00	PCT			

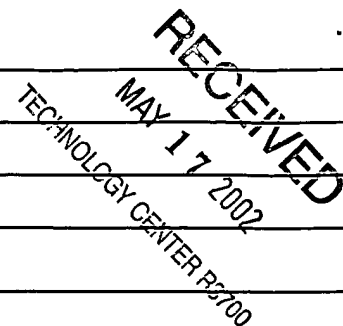
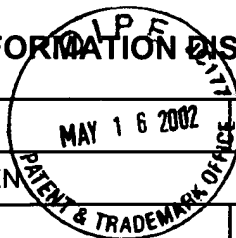
OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)	

Examiner <i>Wm. Challop</i>	Date Considered 8/20/03
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION

OMB No. 0651-0011

Atty. Docket No.	08442.0002-02	Appln. No.	10/075,615
Applicant	Joseph C. CAUTHEN		
Filing Date	2/15/02	Group:	3738



U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initial*	Document Number	Issue Date	Name	Class	Sub Class	Filing Date If Appropriate
WC ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓	5,888,220	3/30/99	Felt et al.			
	5,922,028	7/13/99	Plouhar et al.			
	5,980,504	11/9/99	Sharkey et al.			
	6,007,570	12/28/99	Sharkey et al.			
	6,019,792	2/1/00	Cauthen			
	6,053,909	4/25/00	Shadduck			
	6,073,051	6/6/00	Sharkey et al.			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
	Document Number	Publication Date	Country	Class	Sub Class	Translation Yes or No
WC ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓	WO 01/10316	2/15/01	PCT			
	WO 01/12107	2/22/01	PCT			
	WO 01/21246	3/29/01	PCT			
	WO 01/22902 A2	4/5/01	PCT			
	WO 01/26570 A1	4/19/01	PCT			

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Examiner	<i>W.C. Cauthen</i>	Date Considered	8/20/03
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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial*	Document Number	Issue Date	Name	Class	Sub Class	Filing Date If Appropriate
UC	6,095,149	8/1/00	Sharkey et al.			
	6,099,514	8/8/00	Sharkey et al.			
	6,126,682	10/3/00	Sharkey et al.			
	6,179,874 B1	1/30/01	Cauthen			
	6,183,518 B1	2/6/01	Ross et al.			
	6,187,048 B1	2/13/01	Milner et al.			
	6,206,921 B1	3/27/01	Guagliano et al.			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	Document Number	Publication Date	Country	Class	Sub Class	Translation Yes or No
UC	WO 01/45577 A2	6/28/01	PCT			
	WO 01/93784 A2	12/13/01	PCT			
	WO 01/95818 A1	12/20/01	PCT			

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

Examiner	<i>Kim Chatterjee</i>	Date Considered	8/20/2003
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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initial*	Document Number	Issue Date	Name	Class	Sub Class	Filing Date If Appropriate
	6,224,630 B1	5/1/01	Bao et al.			
	6,245,107 B1	6/12/01	Ferree			
	6,248,106 B1	6/19/01	Ferree			
	6,340,369 B1	1/22/02	Ferree			
	6,344,058 B1	2/5/02	Ferree			
	6,352,557 B1	3/5/02	Ferree			
	6,371,990 B1	4/16/02	Ferree			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Document Number	Publication Date	Country	Class	Sub Class	Translation Yes or No	

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)	

Examiner	<i>U. S. Chapman</i>	Date Considered	<i>5/20/2003</i>
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